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From the Editor

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From the Editor –

This issue features articles about three different communal groups—House of David, Amana, and the Shakers. We begin with an article by Henry Yaple on the importance of four early publications by Benjamin and Mary Purnell, co-founders of the House of David. Yaple is college librarian emeritus of Penrose Library, Whitman College. He enjoys collecting antiquarian books, skiing, kayaking, studying ski history and compiling bibliographies. The International Skiing History Association gave him its Ullr Award for his 2004 publication *Ski Bibliography: A Classified List of English Language Books, Dissertation, Films, Government Documents, Videos, Sound Recordings, Computer Software, eBooks, and Serial Titles on Skiing, 189-2002*. Yaple is compiling a descriptive, annotated bibliography of House of David and Mary's City of David imprints to be published by the Richard W. Couper Press in 2012.

Peter Hoehnle presents what are likely to be the two earliest known photographs of Amana—*cartes de visite* dating from the 1870s. Hoehnle is the project manager for the Iowa Valley Resource, Conservation and Development Council in Amana, Iowa. He received his Ph.D. in Agricultural History and Rural Studies from Iowa State University and is the vice-president of the Communal Studies Association. Last year the Richard W. Couper Press published his *A Bruised Idealist: David Lamson, Hopedale, and the Shakers*.

The final article in the issue is the second installment of Christian Goodwillie's analysis of the treatment of the Shakers in eighteenth-century newspapers. Goodwillie uncovered primary sources documenting some of the events described in the newspaper articles, and he includes this information in his analysis. Goodwillie, curator of special collections and archives at Hamilton College and president of the Communal Societies Association, has published widely on the Shakers.